THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) Ministry of Finance has informed that at present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for revision of rates of Customs and Excise Duties on petroleum products.

While calibrating duty structure on any commodity, including jet fuel and ATF, Government takes into consideration all relevant factors, such as international and domestic prices of a commodity, domestic availability, the interests of the consumers and domestic producers, the administrative feasibility of collection, revenue consideration etc.

Technology upgradation of refineries

†190. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on an average 28 to 29 litres of petrol and 85 litres of diesel are yielded by processing of one barrel of crude oil in crude oil processing industries of the country;

(b) if not, the details thereof and the average production of petrol and diesel from processing of one barrel of crude oil in oil refineries of the country;

(c) whether this average can be increased by technology upgradation; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) The average production of petrol and diesel in India varies from refinery to refinery depending upon the configuration and type of crude oil processed. Most of the inland refineries in India were established based on low sulphur indigenous crude oil processing whereas the coastal refineries predominantly process high sulphur imported crude oil. The average yield in the country is only 17 litres of petrol and 65 litres of diesel.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The average yield can be increased to certain extent through selective crude oil processing and substantially through improved secondary processing, *i.e.* technology upgradation and improved configuration. The oil Public Sector Undertakings have continuously implemented projects to increase refining capacity and maximization of distillates in order to achieve self-sufficiency in petroleum products in the country. Fluidized Catalytic Cracking, Hydrocracking, Hydrotreaters, Delayed Cokers, Catalytic Reformers, Isomerization, Alkylation Units etc. have been selectively added in the refineries for maximization of distillate yield including petrol and diesel.

Blending of ethanol with petrol

191. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reasons for not implementing Government's decision of blending ethanol with petrol; and

(b) by when Government proposes to implement this blending?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi